April 13, 2010

Seattle Municipal Tower, 4112 41st Floor Sweatfree & Slave Free Purchasing Policy Advisory Committee 2:30 – 4:00 pm

Invitations:

Kristen Beifus, Director, Washington Fair Trade Coalition
Nate Van Duzen, CM Tim Burgess
Lisa Herbold, CM Licata
Brian Hawksford, CM Rasmussen
Morgan Currier, Student Labor Action Project
Sara King, Intern, Washington Fair Trade Coalition
Masha Burina, Seattle Women's Commission
Jacque Larrainzer, Office of Civil Rights
Julie McCarty, Department of Personnel
Patrick Neville, King County Labor Council
Robert Beiser, J Connect (Robert@hilleluw.org)
Patricia Lee, Central Council Staff
Dan Eder, Central Council Staff
Dolly Small, City Purchasing, Contracting Equity Manager
Candace Inagi, Office of the Mayor

Agenda:

- Introductions
- Labor Union Presentation (Julie McCarty)
- Purchasing Presentation (Nancy Locke)
- Basic Policy Structure Agreements
 - Policy Statement of progressive action
 - Apply to employee, primes and subs
 - Apply to sealed bid thresholds (\$44,000) and above
 - Uniforms only, progress as best practices evolve
 - Vendors must sign a Code of Conduct
 - Vendors must provide List of Manufacturing Locations
 - Vendors must agree to monitoring as available
 - Policy allows Standard exemptions

Policy Issues

- Option 1 Apply to only likely compliant products and use a pass/fail or most compliant.
 - Pro: Rapid applicability
 - Con: less aggressive in trend-setting new product lines
- Option 2 Allow broader application and score for most compliant inside a cost limit
 - Pro: allows broader testing of the market
 - Con: likely requires ordinance action and cost preferences
 - Con: Likely to require increased staffing for Purchasing and a monitoring component

Report Back

o Definition of Uniform

Portland: Included those with likely success. Expect to phase other items over time.

- Included (examples): Dress shirts, t-Shirts, trousers, polo shirts, sweatshirts, footwear, baseball caps
- Excluded (examples): Safety harness and/or safety related accessories, duty belts, holsters, ballistic vests, bunker gear.

San Francisco: Included broader scope, with "most compliant" approach

- Included: apparel, garments and corresponding accessories
- Included (2/11/2010): (Textiles) all items of cloth produced by weaving, knitting, sewing or similar production processes, including but not limited to such cloth items as sheets, pillows, pillowcases, towels, blankets, comforters, bath mats, mattress covers, table linens, cloth napkins, cleaning cloths, draperies, upholstery, rugs and entrance mats, but excluding carpets.

Factory Locations - examples

- Blumenthals
 - City Shirt Company, Frackville PA
 - Fechheimer Trousers, Nationwide Uniform, Kentucky
 - Fechheimer Shirts, Maryland
 - Feichheimer Trousers, Barranquilla Columbia, South America
 - Safariland Uniform, Ontario California
 - Rocky Brands Boot
 – would not disclose locations
 - San Mar (Blumenthal) joined the Fair Labor Association non-profit
- Parking Lot issues
 - Code of conduct statement
 - Funding
 - Monitoring
 - Phases (rental uniforms, subcontracting uniforms, accessories)
- Next meeting date April 20 weekly 2:30 4:00